

Gc
929.2
F841g
1641165

M. E.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

32
ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01239 1212



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018

<https://archive.org/details/notesoffrackerfa00gran>

Gift 39

NOTES OF
THE FRACKER FAMILY
OF
BOSTON, MASS., & IOWA CITY, IOWA,
and the Allied Family of
CLARK OF QUINCY, MASS.

Collected by
MR. JOHN TILESTON GRANGER

REARRANGED BY
EDWARD LARRABEE BAKER
LAKE FOREST
ILLINOIS

1935

1641165

F R A C K E R

Below are some notes from papers that were sent to Mrs. Fanny Fracker Startsman of Iowa City, Iowa, by her cousin, Mr. John Tileston Granger of Washington, D.C. Mr. Granger intended to publish the results of his search in book form but ^{death} intervened. He was connected with the "Washington Star."

"In writing a history of the Fracker family, the Editor has been confronted with a condition which has both helped and hindered him. It arises from the fact that while there has been discovered but one family of Frackers in America, (all descended from Thomas, of Boston), it has been found impossible to trace his lineage and ancestry either in this country or abroad after strenuous efforts and no little expense. The conclusion is inevitable that Fracker is not the correct or original spelling of the name, but we are forced to believe that either Thomas, or one of his ancestors, changed or corrupted the name from perhaps some similar one, such as Fraker, Fricker, Farquhar, Foraker or something having the sound but not the spelling of the name Fracker. Whether Thomas came originally from French, English, Scotch or Swiss parentage is a question yet unsettled, and so far there seems to be very little chance or prospect of determining this, to us, almost vital question. The preponderance of rumor seems to locate him in France, but it is merely rumor, with no data of any kind to corroborate it. The fact, however, of there being but one family of Frackers in America, so far as known, has made it easy for the editor to gather history of its individual members, for there has never arisen any necessity of asking a Fracker: "Do you come from the line of Thomas?" for there

is absolutely no other line or family from which he could come and carry that name. There are several branches of the family from which the returns to my requests for information are very incomplete, but the general response has been very satisfactory, and the result is embodied in the following pages."

"Mr. John Arthur Fenno of Boston, a descendant of Thomas Fracker, has discovered a record which seems to be a history of the father of the Thomas Fracker named on the following pages.

Mr. May, a genealogist of Boston, has been looking up the old records of various places and from the Records of the Old Second Church on Hanover Street, Boston, Mass., he finds the name of Thomas Fricker whom he thinks is the father of our ancestor, Thomas Fracker. He was married three times as follows:

Jane Howard, August 28, 1746.

Sarah Cooper, February 17, 1757.

Susanna Tolman, April 22, 1762.

Marriage was performed by the Reverend Andrew Elliot. When married the last time his name was spelled Fracker. The records further show that Thomas Fricker was admitted to the church March 24, 1765, and Susanna Fricker admitted February 23, 1766. Susanna (supposed widow) married October 11, 1770, Joseph Lewis.

This would show that this Thomas Fricker died sometime between 1765 and 1770 when his son Thomas, born 1751, would have been something over fourteen years of age.

The records show that children of this Thomas Fricker and Jane Howard, his first wife, were baptized as follows;

Jane, February 21, 1747/8

Thomas, June 2, 1751

Philip, August 26, 1753

Abigail, August 18, 1756

A child of Thomas Fricker and Susanna, his third wife:

Hannah, March 31, 1765."

The following notes were no doubt intended by Mr. Granger as headings of chapters for his proposed book:

"CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER I

Thomas Fracker - The Fracker name - Only Fracker family so far discovered in America - Birth - Marriage to Elizabeth Clark - Her death - Second marriage to her sister Sarah - Business in Boston as shown by various copies of the City Directory - His visit to Zanesville, Ohio, via Marietta - His death - Will and inventory of his estate - Its good size for those days - Will not valid - Disposition of the estate under Massachusetts Laws - Old family Bible with autograph of Thomas Fracker, dated 1806 - List of his children with dates. He was a ship builder at North End, Mass.

The Clark family into which Thomas Fracker twice married - Lemuel Clark (son of Samuel) and his vast estate - Marriage of Samuel Clark and Sarah Tileston - Their family and descendants - Master John Tileston, teacher, sometimes called "The Venerable" - His history and the picture of his home in Boston.

CHAPTER II

Second generation - Sketch of the life of each child of Thomas Fracker taken up in order of birth - Elizabeth Fracker, Birth - Marriage to Ebenezer Pratt Carpenter - List of her descendants - Items of history relating to them.

CHAPTER III

Nancy Fracker - Birth - Marriage to William Hatch, Grocer, in 1799 - Death three years later - She died childless and little can be ascertained regarding her husband or herself or their family history - Mr Hatch married a second time and left quite a family but so far I have never been able to get any trace of any one of them.

CHAPTER IV

Sarah Fracker - Birth - Marriage to Charles H. Jones, Jr, dealer in clothing - History of her family - Her strong personality - Portraits show very strongly the well marked features of the Fracker family - Her children and their history.

CHAPTER V

Hannah Fracker - Birth - Marriage to John Sweet, dealer in dry goods - Family history if any can be found - As yet I have none.- She died childless and her husband married a second time and had quite a family who would not, however, be members of the Fracker family.

CHAPTER VI

Thomas Fracker - Birth - By trade a baker - Family history - Died unmarried in 1806.

CHAPTER VII

Charles Tileston Fracker, second son and sixth child of

Thomas Fracker - Birth - Name Tileston was the maiden name of the mother of Mrs. Thomas Fracker (Sarah Clark) - Early life and education - Goes to sea - Commission in Navy of Buenos Ayres - Return to Boston - Marriage to Nancy Wood, Milliner - Removed to Ohio - Stopped at Marietta and on horseback explored the surrounding country - Trip up the river with the Hazlett family - Settles at Zanesville, Ohio - Enters business as a contractor and builder - First home for himself and family - Engages in business as an iron founder - Various partnerships - Appointed Inspector of Militia and receives title of Colonel - Member of various secret societies - Death and burial - Obituary notices - Copy of his will - His wife, Nancy Wood, and her family - Her twin brothers, Jonathan and Eben Wood, and her maiden half sister, Miss Mary Billings - List of children of John T. Fracker.

CHAPTER VIII

LYDIA FRACKER

Birth - Death from consumption at the early age of seventeen years. Unmarried but pledged.

FANNIE AND WILLIAM FRACKER

Twins - Birth - Early death - The record of Mrs. Startsmann says that they died from excitement caused by the crowds of visitors.

CHAPTER IX

Harriet Fracker - birth - Marriage to George Domett, saddler - History of herself and family - Died of consumpyion in 1822 - List of herchildren - The family name of Harriet Fracker and those to whom it descended - Matilda Dommett Lovejoy now living at her home in Watertown, Mass., is the oldest living member of the Fracker family being eighty-one years old.

CHAPTER X

Mary Fracker - Birth - Marriage to Isaac F. Rowe, grocer, in 1816 - Drowned in same year - Said to have been insane.

CHAPTER XI

George Fracker - Birth - Education - Probably under "Master Tileston" - Goes to sea - Wrecked off coast of South America - Return to Boston - Employment there - Marriage to Lucy Ann Pittman - Her children - Her death - Second marriage to Fanny Lewis Richardson - She was sixteen and he just double her age - Resolves to go west and names his son Charles "West" as a record of this resolution - Removes from Boston to Zanesville, Ohio - His business there - The "Fish Story" - Removes to Washington, Ohio, and engages in banking there - Visit of Zanesville friends to his home in Washington described by S.H.K. - Removal to Iowa - Death - Burial Notices - Will - Mementoes - Remarkable history - Shipwrecked, sole survivor of the ship's crew, wounded, yet lived to be 85 years old and had 14 children - Influence of such a fact upon the history and population of the world.

CHAPTER XII

William Fracker - Birth - Education - Employment as ship carver, an artistic and lucrative profession - Evidently of improvident and intemperate habits - Marriage to Martha Alexander - Family history - List of Children.

CHAPTER XIII

Charlotte Fracker, youngest child of Thomas - Birth - Marriage to John Fenno, Jr., Provision dealer in Boston - Family history - His high standing in the community and influence in the family circle as shown in various letters - List of children.

The Clark family into which Thomas Fracker twice married was in its day quite prominent and deserves some attention at the hands of his historian.

The father of Elizabeth and Sarah Clark was Captain Samuel Clark of Quincy, Mass., who married Sarah Tileson. It is, however, quite remarkable that no record of Thomas Fracker's marriage to either of these Clark sisters is to be found in the records of Quincy or any of the near by suburbs, which records have been recently removed to Boston.

Captain Samuel Clark was 99 years and 9 months old at the time of his death and his wife lived to be more than 98(?) years old; a record of longevity which is maintained in the long life of Thomas Fracker's first child, granddaughter of this old couple, Sarah (Fracker) Jones who died at the age of 91, and of her son, Joseph Davis Jones, who lived to be one hundred and one years and thirteen days old.

Samuel Clark and Sarah Tileston had eleven children. Below are some of them but it is not certain that they are in the right order according to age.

Samuel

Lemuel, went abroad in early life and amassed a large fortune in the Indian trade. He died in England, unmarried, about 1821.

Sarah, 5th child, born Sept. 3, 1759; 2nd wife of Thomas Fracker; married 1778.

Elizabeth } Elizabeth was the 8th child and the 1st wife
Miriam } twins. of Thomas Fracker; married 1775.
Miriam married a Mr. Bent.

John, 11th child and youngest; born about 1767. Removed to

Marietta, Ohio. On his tombstone at Marietta is inscribed: 'Major John Clark. A Native of Quincy, Mass. Removed to this place in 1796. Died Aug. 6, 1851, in the 84th year of his age.'

George Fracker and
Born Feb. 23, 1795,
at Boston, Mass.
Died Oct. 12, 1881,
at Iowa City, Iowa,

Fanny Lewis Richardson
Born Nov. 23, 1812,
at Roxbury, Mass.
Married Nov. 26, 1828,
at Roxbury, Mass.
Died Jan. 14, 1894, at
Iowa City, Iowa.

George Fracker (son of Thomas) was born at Boston, Mass., February 23, 1795. He went to sea and sailed from Rio Janeiro as second officer on the English ship Jane bound for Buenos Ayres but was wrecked at the entrance of the River La Plata, September, 1817. He was the sole survivor and swam ashore at midnight in a heavy sea with a broken leg and many severe cuts and bruises. After lying for several days in an empty wine cask on the beach he was rescued by a native. He married, first, Lucy Ann Pittman and had several children. After her death he married Fanny Lewis Richardson, Nov. 26, 1828 (Thanksgiving eve), at Roxbury, Mass. She was sixteen and he was thirty-three years old. They resolved to go west and named their oldest son Charles "West" as a record of this resolution. They moved from Boston to Zanesville, Ohio, and from there to Washington, Ohio, where he engaged in banking. Later they moved to Iowa City, Iowa, where he died October 12, 1881, and his wife died January 14, 1894. He lived to be 86 years old and had 14 children.

The children of George Fracker and Fanny Lewis Richardson were:

Charles West, born at Roxbury, Mass., Dec. ^{24,} 1829. Died
at Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 20, 1926, and buried at
Iowa City, Iowa. Age 97. He was born when his
mother was seventeen years old.

Albert Henry, born at Zanesville, Ohio, July 28, 1832.
Died at Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 13, 1897.

Ann Cecelia (Simon Beymer) born at Zanesville, Ohio,

June 17, 1834. Died at Pittsburg, Pa., Dec.31, 1884.
Julia Augusta, (Bacon) born at Zanesville, Ohio, May
31, 1836. Died at Iowa City, Iowa, Sept. 7,
1890.

Edward Gustavson, born at Zanesville, Ohio, May 5, 1838.
Died at Iowa City, Iowa, Feb.15, 1900.

Fanny Octavia (Startsman), born at Zanesville, Ohio, July
14, 1840. Died at Iowa City, Iowa, June , 1905.

Martha Ellen (Pratt), born at Zanesville, Ohio, Aug.10,
1842. Married George Nathaniel Pratt (son of
William Henry Harrison Pratt) Sept.3, 1865, at
Iowa City, Iowa. She died June 6, 1925, at Lake
Forest, Illinois, and he died Jan.10, 1901, at
Chicago, Ill. He was born May 29, 1839, Shoreham, Vt.

William Beaumont, born at Zanesville, Ohio, Feb.5, 1845.

Georgianna J. (Closson) (Cytus Ranck), born at Zanesville,
Ohio, Aug.28, 1847. Died at Iowa City, Iowa,
April 1, 1931. Age 84.

Isabel Marston, born at Washington, Ohio, Aug.12, 1851.
Died at Iowa City, Iowa, Feb.13,1857.

George Nathaniel Pratt
Born May 29, 1839, at
Shoreham, Vermont.
Died Jan. 10, 1901, at
Chicago, Ill.

and

Martha Ellen Fracker
Born Aug. 10, 1842, at
Zanesville, Ohio.
Married Sept. 3, 1865,
at Iowa City, Iowa.
Died June 6, 1925, at
Lake Forest, Illinois.

The children of George Nathaniel Pratt and Martha
Ellen Fracker were:

Frances Louise, born July 13, 1870; married Edward Lar-
rabee Baker (son of Robert, son of Charles) at
Racine, Wisconsin, October 28, 1890.

George Nathaniel Jr., born June 29, 1876. He had three
wives: first, Frances Lane of Chicago, Ill.

Edward Larrabee Baker
Born Jan. 20, 1869, at
Racine, Wisconsin.

and

Frances Louise Pratt
Born July 13, 1870,
at Chicago, Illinois.
Married Oct. 28, 1890,
at Racine, Wisconsin.

The only child of Edward Larrabee Baker and Frances
Louise Pratt was:

Rosamond Larrabee, born May 9, 1914, at Chicago, Il-
linois; married Edgar Stanton, Jr., (son of Ed-
gar) June 24, 1933, at Lake Forest, Illinois.

Below are fragments of the unfinished manuscript of Mr. Granger that are related more or less to the above. They are included here for what they are worth.

"Quincy, Mass., August 28, 1904.

Spent the afternoon here visiting Mrs. Abigail Ann (Bent) Kelley of 206 Washington Street, daughter of Edbiah Bent who was a son of Miriam (Clark) Bent. She was the twin sister of Elizabeth Clark, the first wife of Thomas Fracker. Mrs. Bent's sister, Lucy Ann Bent, was named for George Fracker's first wife who was Lucy Ann Pitman. Mrs. Kelley is 79 years old but looks older; small in stature and quite stoop shouldered. * * * * * She has no living children. Her only child, a daughter dying quite young after a short illness. * * * * * Mrs. Kelley showed me, a little way down the street, the small house in which her father and mother lived when Uncle Thomas Fracker and his wife came to visit them and in which house died Hannah Bent. * * * * * Mrs. Kelley was, in her younger days an associate of Miss Annie Appleton, who was her first cousin and a few years older than Mrs. Kelley. She was the daughter of Mr. William Appleton, who, in 1758, married Hannah Clark also a sister of the two wives of Thomas Fracker."

"Joseph Davis Jones was born in Boston Dec. 30, 1797. Married Hannah Loring Bates Oct. 20, 1821, by the Rev. Jacob Flint of Cohasset, Mass. She was born in Cohasset Aug. 10, 1799, and died July 9, 1834, in Nashua, New Hampshire. He died Jan. 11, 1899, in Boston and his body was interred in a vault in Boston Common.

Children of Joseph Davis Jones and Hannah Loring (Bates) Jones were:

James Winchell Jones, born Cohasset, Mass.

George Warren Jones, born Cohasset, Mass.

Joseph Loring Jones, born at Plymouth, Mass.

Lydia Ann Jones, born at Plymouth, Mass.

Mary Bates Jones, born at Plymouth, Mass.

Charles Henry Jones, born at Nashua, N.H.

Martha Ann Jones, Born at Nashua, N.H.

Mary Prout, my grandmother Fracker's mother, was twice married; her first husband being Johnathan Wood, to whom she was married in 1788, by whom she had three children, Eben and Jonathan (twins) and Nancy (my grandmother). Her second husband was John Billings, to whom she was married in 1797 and by whom she had four children, three daughters and one son. One of these daughters married Cyrus Kilburn of Lunenburg, and was the mother of Mrs. Daniels of Dayton, Ohio, who writes me the following very interesting letter:

'Copy of an old record, hardly legible, which was found among papers of Captain Walter Crocker by Mrs. Annie McLean, of Everett, Mass., November, 1901.

Caroline (Jones) Crocker, third child of Charles Henry & Sarah (Fracker) Jones, born July 18, 1802; died Oct. 1, 1885. Aged 83 years, 8 months; Married Aug. 8, 1824, Captain Walter Crocker of Barnstable, Mass.

Walter Crocker and Caroline Jones married Sabbath morning, August 8, 1824. He was born Dec. 29, 1794. His wife was born Feb. 18, 1802.

Their Children:

Caroline Matilda Crocker, born May 31, 1825; died Sept. 16, 1878.

Sarah Jones Crocker, born Feb. 15, 1827; died May 2, 1839.

Walter Morrison Crocker, born Dec. 28, 1823,; died Dec.
11, 1844 (as near as I can decipher).

Mary Crocker, born Jan. 18, 1833; died January, 1901.

Infant daughter, born Feb. 12, 1835; died Feb. 17, 1835.

Infant son, born Aug. 13, 1837; died Aug. 20, 1837.

George B. Crocker, date of birth not given; Died at sea,
probably February, 1862.

On the same page I find:

Mr. Charles H. Jones died May 5, 1834, aged 63. Of course,
this means grandfather Jones, does it not?

